

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument, comprising:

2 a retractor comprising a retractor body that houses a cable, the cable
having a first end positioned within the retractor body and a second end positioned
4 outside the retractor body, the cable having a protuberance coupled to the second end,
and wherein the cable is selectively extendable from the retractor body and retractable
6 into the retractor body; and

an adapter coupled to the protuberance, the adapter comprising a main
8 body having a first portion and a second portion, wherein the first portion and the
second portion are separated by a partition; the first portion defining a first bore having
10 a substantially constant diameter, and the second portion defining a second bore having
a tapered inner bore.

2. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the connector is coupled to the
2 protuberance by an adhesive.

3. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the connector is coupled to the
2 protuberance by a friction fit.

4. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the protuberance includes one or more
2 annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the protuberance.

5. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the protuberance is provided with
2 threads that mate with walls of the first bore.
6. The protuberance of claim 1 wherein the protuberance is sized to engage the
2 walls of the first bore.
7. The retractable device of claim 6 wherein the first bore is provided with at least
2 one ridge projecting away from the walls of the first bore.
8. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the second bore is provided with at
2 least one ridge projecting away from the walls of the second bore.
9. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the tapered inner bore of the second
2 portion of the adapter is funnel-shaped.
10. The retractable device of claim 1 wherein the tapered inner bore of the second
2 portion of the adapter is bottleneck-shaped.
11. The retractable device of claim 1 further comprising an elongated rod that is
2 coupled to the retractor body, the elongate rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip
bracket.

12. A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument, comprising:

2 a retractor comprising a retractor body that houses a cable that is
selectively extendable from and retractable into the retractor body, and a protuberance
4 provided at a first end of the cable; and

an adapter comprising a main body having a first portion and a second
6 portion, wherein the first portion and the second portion are separated by an inner wall;
the first portion defining a first bore having a substantially constant diameter wherein
8 the first bore engages the protuberance, and the second portion defining a second bore
having a funnel-shaped inner bore that is capable of engaging an outer wall of the
10 writing instrument.

13. The retractable device of claim 12 further comprising a fastening means coupled
2 to the retractor.

14. The retractable device of claim 13 wherein the fastening means is an elongated
2 rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip bracket.

15. The retractable device of claim 12 wherein wherein the protuberance includes
2 one or more annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the protuberance.

16. The retractable device of claim 12 wherein the protuberance is provided with
2 threads that mate with corresponding threads on walls of the first bore.

17. A retractable device for retaining a writing instrument, comprising:

2 a retractor comprising a retractor body coupled to a fastening means and
the retractor body housing a cable, the cable having a first end positioned within the
4 retractor body and a second end positioned outside the retractor body, the cable having
a protuberance having annular ridges extending from an outer surface of the
6 protuberance, wherein the protuberance coupled to the second end, and wherein the
cable is selectively extendable from the retractor body and retractable into the retractor
8 body; and

a flexible adapter comprising a main body having a first portion and a
10 second portion, wherein the first portion and the second portion are separated by an
inner wall; the first portion defining a first bore having a substantially constant diameter
12 wherein the first bore engages the protuberance by a friction fit, and the second portion
defining a second bore having a funnel-shaped inner bore that is capable of engaging
14 and retaining the writing instrument.

18. The retractable device of claim 17 wherein the fastening means is a belt clip or a
2 bulldog clip.

19. The retractable device of claim 17 wherein the fastening means is an elongated
2 rod sized to engage a bore or a press-in clip bracket.